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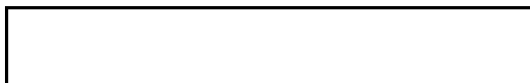
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26 March 1973

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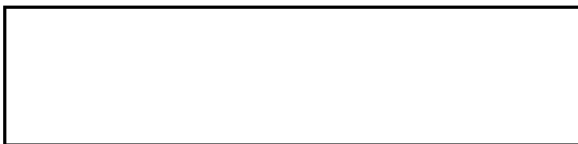
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C O N T E N T S

VIETNAM: The Saigon government is taking precautions against renewed Communist military activity.
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VIETNAM: The Saigon government is taking precautions against any renewed Communist military effort once the US withdrawal is completed.

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[redacted] the army's general staff issued detailed instructions in mid-March on measures to be taken in anticipation of North Vietnamese attacks some time before mid-April. Saigon fears the North Vietnamese will try to inflict maximum damage on the South Vietnamese before the US could respond.

There is evidence from a variety of indicators that the Communists anticipate and are preparing for some sort of increase in the fighting in the next month or so. Evidence that they are planning a massive, country-wide offensive, as feared by Saigon, is thus far lacking.

Much of the government's apprehension has been fueled by the amount of North Vietnamese infiltration activity this dry season [redacted]

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[redacted] A rallier in the delta last week claimed that COSVN has told its cadre that plans were being prepared for new offensive activity if the two sides do not reach a political settlement by 28 April. Some reports have forecast renewed Communist attacks closer to the 28 March deadline. [redacted]

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